



ATTACHMENT A

Remarks

Considering the matters raised in the Office Action in the same order as raised, withdrawal of the indicated allowability of claims 3 and 17 "in view of the newly discovered reference(s) to Paterson et al. 6412042" is noted. The newly cited reference is discussed below.

Claims 1,9, 12-14, 16, 17, and 19 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 (b) as being anticipated by the newly cited Paterson et al. reference ("Paterson"). Claims 14, 16 and 19 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 (b) as being anticipated by the previously cited Kasebayashi patent. On the other hand, claims 2, 4, 5, 8, 10, 11, 15 and 18 have been indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form, and claims 30 and 31 have been indicated to be allowable over the prior art of record.

In order to expedite the prosecution, claim 14 has been amended to include the subject matter of allowable claim 15 and thus, is now allowable. Claims 15 and 18 have been canceled. Hence, the only remaining independent claim that is rejected is claim 1. For the reasons set forth below, the rejection of claim 1 is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 recites, inter alia, that one of the two locations to which the information is written is within a reserve area of the storage device and that the reserve area is not accessible to a user. The Examiner contends that these features disclosed in Paterson and makes specific reference to column 11, line 50 to column 12, line 20 and to column 11, lines 15-25, and column 18, lines 1-5 and 25-65.

Applicant has carefully considered each of the passages in question, but cannot find any teaching of the feature in question in these passages. In brief, the paragraph bridging columns 11 and 12 deals with the basic write process wherein the data segment 72 can be written into two different disk sectors. The other cited passages (lines 15-25 of column 11 and lines 1-5 and 25-65 of column 18) simply do not appear to be relevant, and clearly do not disclose the feature in question. Thus, if the Examiner intends to pursue this rejection, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner point out precisely exactly where in the cited passages in Paterson this feature is believed to be disclosed.

Allowance of the application in it's present form is respectfully solicited.

END REMARKS